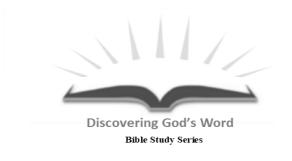
# Is There Really Life After Death?





#### Is There Really Life After Death?

Learn from some evidence for the existence of life after death and consider what you should do with this knowledge

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#### **Discovering God's Word Bible Study Series**

**Study Number:** DGW142

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My plea: It is my hope and prayer that you are searching for the truth that is contained in God's word, the Bible. My desire is to help you understand and obey these truths God has revealed in the pages of His word. It is to that end that I write this material. Please observe all of the Scripture references and evaluate whether the conclusions I have drawn are in harmony with God's word. If they are, I ask that you make honest application of those truths to your life and obey God's instructions.

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# Is There Really Life After Death?

Is there really a consciousness and continued existence after people experience physical death? This is a significant question that has tremendous implications for how each person should live his/her earthly life. And, this question is not a new one. In fact, as long as people have been considering their own mortality, they have had to consider the question about what (if anything) happens after physical death.

For instance, a man in the Bible named Job, said, "Man who is born of woman Is of few days and full of trouble. He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue" (Job 14:1-2). Here was a man who was going through some difficult times. Job chapters 1 and 2 depict how this man had his possessions and wealth taken away from him, experienced the death of his children, and even had his own health severely deteriorate. Now, as he reflects on his life, he recognizes his own mortality. Then, he asked, "If a man dies, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14).

This is a question every person who is living on this earth should seriously consider today. Whenever you die, will you live again? There have been several proposed answers to this question. Let's briefly consider four answers that have been offered to this question.

First, some suggest that death is the end. At the point of physical death, some have said that man is no different from the animals in that there is no continued conscious existence. This is a common belief of those who have no faith in God or some other higher power. So, whenever you die, you are like Rover and dead all over. You have no knowledge of anything, no feeling, no hope, nothing. You have absolutely nothing to look forward to or fear after the point of physical death – because (according to these individuals) there is absolutely no existence besides your physical life.

Second, some suggest that there is no conscious existence after death until some take part in the resurrection when Jesus Christ returns. For instance, the Jehovah's Witnesses have attempted to prove this idea from the Bible. Ecclesiastes 9:3-5 is often quoted in support of this. "This is an evil in all that is done under the sun: that one thing happens to all. Truly the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil; madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead. But for him who is joined to all the living there is hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion. For the living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten." However, when you study this verse in its context, the only thing it is talking about is life on this earth (that which is done, "under the sun," see verse 6). So, from a physical perspective, there is no more existence, hope, or knowledge. This verse says absolutely nothing about whether there is a continued spiritual existence after death.

Third, some suggest that whenever a person experiences physical death, there is a part of him/her that is reincarnated into a different type of life form. This is a common idea of Indian religion, Buddhism, and Hinduism. Some who adopt this perspective of life after death have attempted to connect similarities between new life and characteristics of one who is deceased. Some who accept this explanation for life after death believe that this cycle of life is endless. However, even within those who believe in a concept of reincarnation, there are disagreements about whether there is a soul or not.

Fourth, the primary belief of those who profess Christianity or Judaism is that mankind has been created with a soul that survives physical death. Although these do not all agree about what is experienced after death, there is a general view (at least among professing Christians) that there will be

a judgment day and that the soul will spend eternity either in Heaven or Hell.

With all of this confusion that exists in the world today, it is certainly worth considering how we can even find the right answer to this question. Certainly, this is a question full of implications as to how we should live our physical lives on this earth. Even the apostle Paul recognized that if there is no life after death (i.e. if the dead do not rise), then we should just eat and drink because tomorrow we die (1 Corinthians 15:32). That is, we should just live for our own physical desires and ambitions. We would have no responsibility to live a morally good life. However, if there really is life after death, then this may provide some incentive for living morally pure and obeying God.

Only the Bible is capable of giving you the perfectly true answer. This is *not* something that can be observed or tested with a scientific experiment. You see, we can only observe and test things that pertain to the physical realm. So, if there is anything that is of a spiritual nature, it cannot be observed physically. Only the One who created mankind is capable of answering this question! Fortunately, God has given us all the information we need to answer this question.

In this lesson, we want to investigate what God has said in the Bible about mankind's mortality and spiritual existence. Then, we will consider what the Bible tells us will happen after mankind experiences physical death. And, we will consider what all of this means for how we should be living life on earth.

#### The Certainty Of Death

People throughout this world recognize that every life on this earth is limited by time. It is an observable fact that every living person and thing experiences death at some point. But, perhaps we can gain an even greater understanding of this truth through the Scriptures.

### Every person has an appointment with death

We are constantly reminded of the fact that death is in the world – and that no one is exempt from it! We can look around us and observe that things are dying. Plants die. Trees die. Animals die. And, people are dying all around us. Take a look in the obituary section of your local newspaper and take a moment just to reflect on how many people who live in your community have died in the last couple of days! Our loved ones die. Our acquaintances die. Famous people die – from presidents to athletes to wealthy businessmen/women to actors and singers, etc.

We simply cannot escape the constant reminder that death is a common reality for all of mankind! But, the Bible tells us this is so. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 says, "To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven: A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted." Simply put: There is a time to die – for yourself and for everything and everyone around you.

So, the Scriptures clearly demonstrate that there is a time to die we must all simply embrace and prepare for. Hebrews 9:27 says, "And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment." We each have appointments with death. However, we simply do not know when our appointments are. Still, we can know for certain that we will experience physical death at some time in the future – and that there will be a Judgment after this.

#### Why does man have to die?

Let's consider some fundamental questions that we all ask: Why do I have to die? Why do my loved ones have to die? Then, as we answer these questions, let's make sure that we appeal to the Scriptures to find the answer – rather than becoming angry and blaming God for the presence of physical death in this world!

In the Scriptures, we are shown that God did not create physical death whenever He created the world. In the beginning, when God had created man, He placed man in the Garden of Eden and gave mankind access to the tree of life (Genesis 2:8-9). This tree would give man the ability to live forever (Genesis 3:22).

So, God made all of the necessary provisions for man to live forever by taking of the Tree of Life. However, death entered the world whenever man sinned against God. In Genesis 2:16-17, God gave man a law to follow. He commanded that he not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He warned, "in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." Whenever Adam and Eve sinned (Genesis 3:1-6), they experienced spiritual death (separation from God) in that day. However, as God also pronounced physical punishments for their sin, He identified that man would die and his body would return to the dust of the earth (Genesis 3:19) and he would be separated from the Tree of Life (Genesis 3:22).

Therefore, as we constantly interact with reminders about death, let it remind us of the consequences of sin. Death is not God's fault. It is man's fault. In fact, all of the negative things we experience in this world are not the result of God being cruel. Instead, it is the consequence of the rebellion that took place in the Garden of Eden. However, because God is a loving God, He has given each one of us the opportunity to find salvation from the sins we commit through Jesus Christ and be given eternal life in Heaven – and be granted access to the Tree of Life in that place (see Revelation 22:1-5). We'll talk more about what God has prepared for those who faithfully serve Him throughout their lives later in this study.

#### What is physical death?

We are typically able to distinguish when someone is dead or alive. But, what is physical death? There are actually two elements involved in physical death.

(1) The separation of the soul and body. While there are certainly physical elements to death (which we'll consider in a moment), the Bible also gives us even greater insight into the process of death. For instance, consider James 2:26 again: "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." Therefore, in addition to the

physical things that happen at death, the Bible says that the spirit departs from the body.

(2) Vital functions of the body cease. From this, we can conclude that death occurs whenever the spiritual element of man's existence (his soul) separates from the physical body! Then, whenever this occurs, we learn that the functions of our physical bodies cease and the body begins to decay. Psalm 146:4 says, "His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; In that very day his plans perish." We will focus on the spiritual existence of an individual after death in a few moments. For now, however, let's focus on what happens to the physical body after physical death (that is, after the soul departs from the body). At death, the normal and vital functions of our physical bodies cease. The functions of our brains stop. The functions of our hearts stop. The functions of our lungs stop. The movements of our bodies stop. Then, after these vital functions stop, our bodies begin to decay. Again, Psalm 146:4 demonstrated that our spirits depart and our bodies return to the earth. After Adam and Eve sinned, God told Adam, "In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19). Our physical bodies, therefore, go through a natural decaying process after death (i.e. after our souls depart from our bodies).

#### **Mankind Possesses A Soul**

Having established the fact that all mankind will experience physical death some day, we must consider the vital question as to whether or not this is all that there is to mankind's existence. Is man forever put out of existence? Or, is there an element of man's existence that consciously survives physical death?

#### Created in the image of God

Genesis 1:26-27 says, "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps

on the earth.' So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

The Scriptures do not just teach that mankind has been created by God with a physical existence. Instead, the Scriptures teach that God also gave mankind a spiritual element to his existence. Mankind has been created in the image of God! What image is that? What does this possibly help us to understand about the nature of man? Consider John 4:24 – a statement Jesus makes about God's nature. "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." God is not a physical being with a physical body. Therefore, whenever the Genesis record says that man has been made in the image of God, this cannot refer to a physical resemblance. Instead, it must refer to the fact that mankind has been created with a spiritual element to his existence!

In fact, as we will continue to see, the Scriptures plainly demonstrate the truth that mankind has been created with a spiritual element (a soul) that will survive physical death and will continue to exist beyond this physical life on earth. However, before moving on to consider some other passages that further demonstrate this fact, look back at the Genesis 1 record of creation and observe that *only* mankind has been created with this spiritual element to his existence! You simply never read about God creating any of the other physical things (i.e. plants and animals) with a spiritual element to their existence. It was only mankind who was created in the image of God – and was given dominion over all of the other physical things on earth!

#### God is the God of the living

Luke 20:37-38 says, "But even Moses showed in the burning bush passage that the dead are raised, when he called the Lord 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' For He is not the God of the dead but of the living, for all live to Him."

In this text, Jesus points to the burning bush passage in Exodus 3 to answer the question identified in Luke 20:27-33. The Sadducees (a sect of Jews who denied the resurrection and the existence of the spirit,

see also Acts 23:8) asked Jesus a question concerning the resurrection. Their question involved a complicated scenario concerning seven brothers, each taking the same woman as wife after a brother would die and bear no children. Then, they asked, "in the resurrection, whose wife does she become? For all seven had her as wife."

Jesus begins to answer their question by responding that marriage is a physical relationship that only exists on this earth. After the resurrection, there will be no more marriage or giving in marriage – nor is there any more death. Then, Jesus makes reference (in verses 37-38) to the burning bush passage to prove that the dead are raised. He said that there is evidence that the dead are raised in the statement the Lord made to Moses - when He identified Himself as, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Now, Jesus said, God is not the God of the dead, but of the living! Therefore, whenever God claims to be the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob years after these individuals had experienced physical death, this is proof that these individuals still continue to exist!

#### The rich man and Lazarus

Luke 16:22-23 says, "So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom."

This passage finds itself in the context of Jesus' teaching concerning two individuals — a rich man and a poor beggar named Lazarus. Jesus' teaching begins by describing how these two individuals lived very different physical lives. One man had all the things he desired to have; while the other man was full of sores and desired to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. However, Jesus' statement in verses 22 and 23 concerning these two individuals indicate that both men experienced physical death.

Then, please notice that both of these individuals continued to exist after the point of their physical deaths. The beggar (Lazarus) was "carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom" and the rich man

found himself "in torments in Hades." The text, then, goes on to record a conversation between the rich man and Abraham, detailing the great torment the rich man was experiencing after his physical death. Therefore, this passage demonstrates the basic fact that there is something we will experience after death – that our souls do in fact survive physical death. The physical element was not the only part of their existence!

#### **Together in Paradise**

Luke 23:43 says, "And Jesus said to him, 'Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

This passage comes in the context of Jesus' crucifixion. At the time of His crucifixion, Jesus was crucified between two thieves. During this time, one of the two thieves demonstrated a penitent heart, rebuking the other thief who was blaspheming Jesus. He said, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we have received the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong" (Luke 23:40-41). Then, this man continued and said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom" (Luke 23:42).

Then, Jesus told this man that he would be with Him in Paradise that day (verse 43). Now, from a physical perspective, all three of these men would die (as they were all hanging on their crosses, experiencing physical deaths). However, Jesus' statement indicates that both the thief and Jesus would continue to exist beyond their physical deaths! There was more to their existence than just the physical existence. For Jesus and this penitent thief, their physical deaths marked the point at which they would go to Paradise.

#### A building from God

2 Corinthians 5:1-8 says, "For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in this tent

groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. For we walk by faith, not by sight. We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord."

Just prior to making these statements, Paul wrote concerning his great hope in that which is unseen and eternal (in 4:16-18). In that passage, he speaks of both the "outward man" and the "inward man." The outward man was perishing due to the affliction he was experiencing and the natural aging process. However, his inward man was "being renewed day by day" as he was looking for the eternal things God has promised to reveal!

In this context, Paul makes some further observations to the Corinthians concerning his outward man and inward man (in 5:1-8). Paul plainly identifies a time when his physical existence (his "earthly house") would be "destroyed." He even references this physical existence as a "tent" (note that a tent is only a temporary structure). However, Paul does not begrudge the thought of this time when his physical existence would end. He does not say that physical death would be the end. Instead, he said that he groaned while in this "tent" – looking for the time when he could be further clothed with the heavenly body God has promised (see also 1 Corinthians 15:50-58)! Again, Paul is eagerly anticipating this time when he could be "absent from the body" and "present with the Lord." Clearly, Paul was looking forward to a continued spiritual existence after his physical death!

#### Man cannot destroy the soul

Matthew 10:28 says, "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Jesus makes a clear distinction in this verse between mankind's physical existence and the spiritual existence. Now, His ultimate point in the passage is one of fear. That is, those who desire to serve Him should not fear man. Although man often tries to physically harm those who are serving the Lord and preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, man is incapable of harming the soul. Instead of fearing man, you should fear God who can destroy the physical body – and the soul of man by casting it into Hell fire. This is the reason why the apostle Paul found joy in serving God even though there were many people who were trying to harm him physically (as referenced in 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:8).

So, please recognize that Jesus once again teaches us that there is a distinction between the body and the soul. In doing so, He demonstrates two things. First, He demonstrates that the soul survives physical death. Consider the first half of the verse. We have no need to fear man because man is only capable of destroying the physical body. Yet, if there was no soul that survived physical death, this destruction of the physical body would also result in a total annihilation. But, the implication is that those who serve Jesus Christ faithfully (although they are killed physically) will be rewarded spiritually by God (i.e. in Heaven). Second, He demonstrates that the soul will experience something. Specifically, Jesus identifies the place called "Hell" as being a possible destination for the soul. The Scriptures teach that this spiritual destination is reserved for those who do not fear God and obey Him (see Revelation 21:8). Other passages also speak of Heaven as the destination for those who do fear God and obey Him (see 1 Peter 1:3-9).

#### The desire to depart

Philippians 1:21-24 says, "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you."

The apostle Paul was not afraid of experiencing physical death. And, more than just not being afraid to experience physical death, he actually anticipated it and desired to experience it. Now, certainly this is not because Paul saw himself as coming back in some other life form or being

completely put out of existence. Instead, it is because he desired to experience what was waiting for him after his death (as he discussed in 2 Corinthians 4-5).

Although he was torn between experiencing physical death and continuing to live on earth in the sense of continuing to be able to do some good in the service of Jesus Christ on this earth, his desire was to die. He recognized that this would result in being with Jesus Christ. As he viewed this proposition, he viewed it as being "far better" than remaining on this earth. Certainly, then, the apostle Paul (who wrote by inspiration of God, see 2 Timothy 3:16-17) knew the truth that God had revealed about life after death. He recognized that there was a reward that was waiting for him after his life of faithful service to Jesus Christ was over (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

#### What Happens After Death

Since mankind does have a soul that survives physical death, it is important to consider what each person will experience after physical death. As you consider all of these points, recognize that the Bible pictures a state of consciousness at every point after physical death. It pictures people who see, feel, hear, etc. as they experience all of these things.

#### Hades

Where does your spirit go when you die? Does it go directly to Heaven or Hell? The Scriptures identify that there is a place called "Hades" in which the dead are awaiting the return of Jesus Christ and the final Judgment. So, whenever an individual dies, he/she goes to this temporary realm of the dead. Jesus Himself demonstrates this to be so – as Jesus went to Hades after dying on the cross (see Acts 2:27).

Luke 16:19-31 provides the most information of any passage in Scripture about this place. Once again, this passage identifies two individuals (a rich man and Lazarus) who both experienced physical deaths. However, they continued to exist in two very different places within this Hadean realm. The rich man found himself in a place of torment (vs. 23) where he could find no relief (vs. 24); but, Lazarus found himself in a place of great comfort (vs. 22, 25).

So, this Hadean realm (the realm of the dead) is composed of two distinct sections – a section of those who have been faithful to the Lord and are being comforted, and a section of those who have not been faithful to the Lord and are being tormented. However, the Scriptures teach that this place is only temporary – and those who are in Hades will be brought out when the Lord Jesus returns for final Judgment (1 Thessalonians 4:16; Revelation 20:13).

#### The second coming of Christ

When Jesus Christ was living on this earth, He promised that He would come again. In John 14:1-3, Jesus told His disciples that He would go to prepare a place for them – and that He would come again to receive them to Himself. However, Jesus also identified the fact that this Day would come at a time that would not be specifically announced. In Matthew 24:36, Jesus said: "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only." Later, in Matthew 24:44, He said, "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

But, what will happen when Jesus Christ returns? The Scriptures tell us the following things will take place: Christ will come in the clouds (Acts 1:9-11), He will descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God (1 Thessalonians 4:16), the dead will be raised (John 5:28-29), the dead in Christ will rise first (1 Thessalonians 4:14, 16), the living will meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17), the earth will be destroyed (2 Peter 3:10-14), the resurrection and transformation into our spiritual bodies will take place (1 Corinthians 15:50-54), Judgment will take place (Matthew 25:31-46), vengeance will be taken upon those who were disobedient and eternal rest will be given to the faithful (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9), death and Hades will be destroyed (Revelation 20:13-14), and the kingdom will be turned back to God (1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

#### The Judgment

As just mentioned, the Scriptures teach that the final Judgment will take place whenever Jesus Christ returns. Matthew 25 demonstrates this to be true. Matthew 25:31-32 says, "When the Son of Man

comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats."

As you consider this great Day of Judgment, recognize that you will be present for this Judgment. No one will escape it! 2 Corinthians 5:10 says, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad." Jesus Christ will be the Judge (Acts 17:30-31) – and we will each be judged according to the criteria of God's word, the things written in Bible (John 12:48; Romans 2:16; Revelation 20:11-15).

#### **Eternity**

The Bible presents only two options as to where we will spend our eternities: Eternal life in Heaven or eternal punishment in Hell fire. Take a moment to consider how each of these two places are described in the Scriptures. Note that while we do not have all of the information we may like to have about each of these places that we do have all of the information we *need* to have! Particularly note that the Scriptures identify both of these places as being *eternal* in nature. Therefore, these are places we will live and experience their various conditions forever and ever!

Eternity in Heaven is described as eternal life (Matthew 25:46). It is described as being a beautiful place (Revelation 21-22). It is a place in which there will be no pain, sorrow, or death (Revelation 21:4). It is a place which will be without evil (Revelation 21:27). And, it will be a place in which we will spend eternity with God (Revelation 21:22-23; Revelation 22:1-5).

Eternity in Hell is described as eternal punishment (Matthew 25:46). It is a place that is depicted by fire and brimstone (Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 21:8). It is a place depicted by darkness, weeping, and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 25:30). And, it is a place of eternal separation from God (Matthew 25:41; 2 Thessalonians 1:9; Revelation 21:8), spent with the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41).

# Living With The Reality Of Life After Death

Because mankind possesses a soul (i.e. a spiritual existence), each person who has ever lived or will ever live on this earth will experience something whenever life is over. Everyone (whether they lived morally pure and good lives on earth or not) will take part in the return of Jesus Christ and be Judged by God. However, those who do not obey God's word of truth (as revealed in the Bible) will experience great suffering for all of eternity, while those who do obey God will be rewarded for all of eternity. So, please consider how you should respond to the reality of life after death.

## Recognize that you will continue to exist after your death

You must fully embrace both your own mortality (from a physical perspective) and your continued existence (from a spiritual perspective). The wise man Solomon wrote, "Better to go to the house of mourning Than to go to the house of feasting, For that is the end of all men; And the living will take it to heart" (Ecclesiastes 7:2). So, as you reflect on all the reminders of death that happen around you (i.e. when you go to the funeral home to mourn someone's death), you should recognize that you will also experience death one day – and that you will continue to exist.

#### **Prepare for death**

How you live on this earth matters. If you had no continued spiritual existence, then you could just choose to live however you desire. But, since you do have a continued spiritual existence and the Bible teaches that what you will experience depends on whether you have lived to please God or not, you must live your life preparing for your physical death (see Galatians 6:7-8). Philippians 2:12 instructs you to "work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." So, every day, you should be living your life to please God – as if it was the last day that you have to make your life right with God. For, whenever you experience physical death, you have no more

opportunity to make your life right with God and be rewarded eternally. For this reason, 2 Corinthians 6:2 says that "now is the day of salvation"!

#### **Conclusion**

Yes, there really is life after death! God promises every person that he/she has a soul that will survive physical death. Ultimately, this soul will either spend eternity in Heaven or in Hell. One place is a beautiful place that is free from all pain, sorrow, and death in the presence of the almighty God. But, one place is a place of indescribable punishment, torment, and pain that is away from God's presence. Yet, God gives you the opportunity to live your life in a way that pleases Him so that you can (through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ) have Heaven as your eternal home! But, will you choose to make the necessary preparations for life after death while you are living on this earth?

#### **Study Questions**

What are some views of death and the afterlife?

#### 1. The Certainty Of Death

Will every person die?

Why does man have to die?

What is physical death?

#### 2. Mankind Possesses A Soul

How does Genesis 1:26-27 teach that mankind has a soul?	What will happen on the Judgment Day?
How does Luke 20:37-38 teach that mankind has a soul?	What are the two possible destinations for eternity?
	4. Living With The Reality Of Life After Death
How does Luke 16:22-23 teach that mankind has a soul?	Why should you recognize that you will continue to exist after your death?
How does Luke 23:43 teach that mankind has a soul?	Why should you prepare for your death?
How does 2 Corinthians 5:1-8 teach that mankind has a soul?	
How does Matthew 10:28 teach that mankind has a soul?	
How does Philippians 1:21-24 teach that mankind has a soul?	
3. What Happens After Death	
What is Hades? What the two parts of Hades?	
Will Jesus return? What will happen when Jesus returns?	